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LB 285

path. I like to look at new ideas. I like to look at new solutions. I'd welcome the opportunity. Thank you, Mr. President.

SENATOR CUDABACK: Thank you, Senator Redfield. We're discussing the Redfield amendment to the committee amendments to LB 285. On with discussion. Senator Baker.

SENATOR BAKER: Thank you, Senator Cudaback and members of the Legislature. I rise in support of Senator Redfield's amendment. I think it's good policy to force this body to look at this, reexamine what we've done in a few years. I think the public's perception that we had a temporary increase in LB 1085, there's no such thing as a temporary increase. They're going to come back and say, temporary, no; you just made it permanent; we knew you would; you've done it. This would at least give us a little bit of breathing room, I think, in that regard. It's been an interesting day. Following my e-mail, I had a comment published in one of the statewide papers and I'll tell you who's winning right now. It's the taxpayers. And they're not as well organized as the education lobby. I am hearing from both sides, but I'll tell you, taxpayers are way out in front and that statement I made was I think we can still make some efficiencies in K-12 education. If we can't fill the gap, that's probably where we're going to make some cuts. Taxpayers are ahead so far today. I think that it's just good policy to come back and reexamine this. And I will offer an amendment on Select File on LB 285 to sunset the sales tax, only I'm going to make it through the out years so that we will not have to face that again, those of us term limited out in 2006. We'll push that into the group of 20 new senators, whatever it is coming in. I think that's just good policy. I think they need to examine this. In the face of term limits, we shouldn't make it too easy for them. They may have some different ideas and approaches that we need to give them that option. In this case, we're not giving it to them. We're forcing them to look at all opportunities. So this is a bitter pill for me to swallow. I was one of those senators who voted against LB 1085 and I will support it this time. Why? Because we just can't cut our way out of all this. I have constituents on both sides of that issue too. They're saying, oh, cut your way out of this whole